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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-third session the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee held a general discussion on the item jointly with item 110, entitled "International drug control", at its 5th and 6th meetings, on 4 October 2018, and considered proposals and took action on the item at its 44th, 45th, 47th, 51st and 55th meetings, on 6, 8, 13, 16 and 20 November. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records.[1]

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with particular reference to the technical cooperation activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (A/73/131);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/73/133);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/73/134);

[1] A/C.3/73/SR.5, A/C.3/73/SR.6, A/C.3/73/SR.44, A/C.3/73/SR.45, A/C.3/73/SR.47, A/C.3/73/SR.51 and A/C.3/73/SR.55.

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(d) Report of the Secretary-General on technical assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism (A/73/136);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on its seventh session (A/73/132).

4. At its 5th meeting, on 4 October, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.2

5. In its resolution 2018/15, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly that it adopt a draft resolution entitled "Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The draft resolution was reproduced in a note by the Secretariat (A/C.3/73/L.2) that was brought to the attention of the Committee at its 5th meeting, on 4 October.

6. At its 44th meeting, on 6 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.2 (see para. 45, draft resolution I).

7. After the adoption of the draft resoiution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.3

8. In its resolution 2018/16, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly that it adopt a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice". The draft resolution was reproduced in a note by the Secretariat (A/C.3/73/L.3) that was brought to the attention of the Committee at its 5th meeting, on 4 October.

9. At the 44th meeting, on 6 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.3.

10. Also at its 44th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.3 (see para. 45, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.4

11. In its resolution 2018/17, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly that it adopt a draft resolution entitled "The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals". The draft resolution was reproduced in a note by the Secretariat (A/C.3/73/L.4) that was brought to the attention of the Committee at its 5th meeting, on 4 October.

12. At the 44th meeting, on 6 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.4.

13. Also at its 44th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.4 (see para. 45, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.8/Rev.1

14. At its 55th meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity" (A/C.3/73/L.8/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.8 and was submitted by Albania, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Qatar, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Zimbabwe.

15. At the same meeting, the representative of Italy made a statement and orally revised operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution.[2]

16. Also at the same meeting, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, the Bahamas, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Iceland, India, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nigeria, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. Also at its 55th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.8/Rev.1, as orally revised (see para. 45, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.9/Rev.1

18. At the 44th meeting, on 6 November, the representative of the Russian Federation introduced a draft resolution entitled "Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes" (A/C.3/73/L.9/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.9 and was submitted by Algeria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Myanmar, Nicaragua, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Angola, Armenia, Burundi, Egypt, Eritrea, Togo and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

19. At the 47th meeting, on 13 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.9/Rev.1.

20. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.

[2] See A/C.3/73/SR.55.

21. Also at the same meeting, Benin, Guinea, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Libya joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

22. Also at its 47th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.9/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 88 to 55, with 29 abstentions (see para. 45, draft resolution V). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Sao Tome and Principe, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uruguay.

23. Before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Australia, the United States, Austria (on behalf of the European Union) and Japan. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Peru and Ecuador. The representative of the Russian Federation also made a statement.

F. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.10

24. At its 47th meeting, on 13 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders" (A/C.3/73/L.10), submitted by Morocco (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

25. At the same meeting, the representative of Uganda, on behalf of the Group of African States, made a statement.

26. Also at the same meeting, Austria, France, Hungary, Italy, Norway and Paraguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

27. Also at its 47th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.10 (see para. 45, draft resolution VI).

G. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.12/Rev.1

28. At its 45th meeting, on 8 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs" (A/C.3/73/L.12/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.12 and was submitted by Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Paraguay and Spain.

29. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.12/Rev.1.

30. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Spain made a statement.

31. Also at the 45th meeting, Albania, Algeria, Belarus, Belize, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Czechia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Finland, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Montenegro, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

32. At the same meeting, the representative of Belarus made a statement.

33. Also at its 45th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.12/Rev.1 (see para. 45, draft resolution VII).

H. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.15/Rev.1

34. At its 51st meeting, on 16 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption" (A/C.3/73/L.15/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.15 and was submitted by Antigua and Barbuda, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Italy, Lesotho, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria and Paraguay.

35. At the same meeting, the representative of Colombia made a statement.

36. Also at the same meeting, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, France, the Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Liberia, Libya, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, the Niger, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of

Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

37. Also at its 51st meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.15/Rev.1 (see para. 45, draft resolution VIII).

I. Draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.16/Rev.1

38. At its 55th meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Special session of the General Assembly against corruption" (A/C.3/73/L.16/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.16 and was submitted by Belize, Colombia, Nigeria, Norway, Peru and Saudi Arabia.

39. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.16/Rev.1.

40. Also at the same meeting, the representatives of Colombia and Peru made statements.

41. At the same meeting, Benin, Botswana, Chile, El Salvador, Georgia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Namibia, the Niger, Qatar, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

42. Also at its 55th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.16/Rev.1 (see para. 45, draft resolution IX).

43. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of the United States and Japan made statements.

J. Draft decision proposed by the Chair

44. At its 55th meeting, on 20 November, on the proposal of the Chair (Afghanistan), the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the following documents submitted under item 109 (see para. 46):

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/73/134);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on technical assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism (A/73/136);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on its seventh session (A/73/132).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

45. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, in which it encouraged coherence of the General Assembly and its Main Committees, the Economic and Social Council, the specialized agencies and the functional commissions of the Council, and other intergovernmental bodies and forums with the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development towards the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling also that Sustainable Development Goal 16, on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, will be reviewed in depth by the high-level political forum in 2019,

Recalling further the preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as set out in its resolution 72/192 of 19 December 2017, including the decision that the main theme of the Fourteenth Congress would be "Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda",

Underscoring the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind that the implementation of the present resolution would support and be without prejudice to the existing mandates of the Commission,

1. *Underlines* the importance of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in actively contributing to the global follow-up to and supporting the thematic review of progress made in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals relating to its mandate;

2. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness about the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and its relevance in the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[1]

3. *Recognizes* the integrated and indivisible nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the interlinkages between them;

[1] Resolution 70/1.

4. *Welcomes* the cooperation of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within its existing mandate, with other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, and encourages the Commission to further enhance its cooperation with all relevant intergovernmental bodies and forums with a view to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. *Encourages* Member States to consider including information on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16, also in relation to the work of the Commission, in their voluntary national reviews for consideration by the high-level political forum on sustainable development during its meeting to be held in 2019 and sharing relevant information contained in those voluntary national reviews with the Commission during its twenty-eighth session, including in the context of the general debate;

6. *Invites* Member States and relevant United Nations entities, international and regional organizations, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network and other relevant stakeholders to provide the Commission, through its secretariat, for consideration during its twenty-eighth session, views on how the Commission can contribute to the review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 16, and requests the Secretariat to also bring that information to the attention of the high-level political forum at its meeting in 2019 and the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, within existing reporting requirements.

Draft resolution II
Follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme,[1] should be held,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Emphasizing the important role played by the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in recognizing that crime prevention and criminal justice, with due regard to the observance of human rights, make a direct contribution to the maintenance of peace and security,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice to promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recalling its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of the major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments to stay fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the major United Nations conferences and summits and invited its intergovernmental bodies to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling also its resolution 62/173 of 18 December 2007, in which it endorsed the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its meeting held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[2]

Recalling further its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015, in which it endorsed the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

[1] Resolution 46/152, annex.

[2] See E/CN.15/2007/6, chap. IV.

into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcomed with appreciation the offer of the Government of Japan to act as host to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in 2020,

Recalling its resolution 72/192 of 19 December 2017, in which it approved the agenda items and decided upon the main theme and the topics for the workshops of the Fourteenth Congress and also decided that the duration of the Fourteenth Congress should not exceed eight days,

Recalling also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, in which it adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing the importance of the substantive contributions that the Fourteenth Congress can make to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Encouraged by the success of the Thirteenth Congress as one of the largest and most diverse forums for the exchange of views on and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Fourteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

1. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[4] when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make all efforts, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in following up on the implementation of the Doha Declaration;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

4. *Decides* to hold the Fourteenth Congress in Kyoto, Japan, from 20 to 27 April 2020, with pre-Congress consultations to be held on 19 April 2020;

5. *Also decides* that the high-level segment of the Fourteenth Congress shall be held during the first two days of the Congress in order to allow Heads of State or Government and government ministers to focus on the main theme of the Congress and to enhance the possibility of generating useful feedback;

6. *Further decides* that, in accordance with its resolution 56/119, the Fourteenth Congress shall adopt a single declaration, to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for its consideration;

[3] E/CN.15/2018/11.

[4] Resolution 70/174, annex.

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the draft discussion guide prepared by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, for the regional preparatory meetings and for the Fourteenth Congress;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to finalize the discussion guide in a timely manner, taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as additional comments and feedback from Member States, in order to enable the regional preparatory meetings for the Fourteenth Congress to be held as early as possible in 2019;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to proceed with the organization of the four regional preparatory meetings for the Fourteenth Congress and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice, as well as making a special effort to organize the regional preparatory meeting for European and other States so as to benefit from their input;

10. *Urges* Governments to actively participate in the regional preparatory meetings, where appropriate, and invite their representatives to examine the substantive items on the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Fourteenth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations for consideration by the Congress;

11. *Invites* Governments to undertake preparations for the Fourteenth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees;

12. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Fourteenth Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by Heads of State or Government, government ministers or attorneys general, and to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress;

13. *Also reiterates its invitation* to Member States to play an active role in the Fourteenth Congress by sending legal and policy experts, including practitioners with special training and practical experience in crime prevention and criminal justice;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the participation of representatives from relevant entities of the United Nations system in the Fourteenth Congress, bearing in mind the main theme, agenda items and workshop topics of the Congress;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to facilitate the participation of developing countries in the workshops, and encourages States, the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network, other concerned entities and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the workshops are well focused and achieve practical results, leading to technical cooperation ideas and projects and documents for enhancing bilateral and multilateral technical assistance activities in crime prevention and criminal justice;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Fourteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress, and encourages Member States to actively participate in the above-mentioned meetings, as they provide an opportunity to develop and maintain a strong partnership with the private sector and civil society organizations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a plan for the documentation for the Fourteenth Congress, in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

18. *Again encourages* the relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Fourteenth Congress;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Fourteenth Congress, in accordance with past practice, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the necessary resources, from within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 and the programme budget for 2020, to support the preparations for and holding of the Fourteenth Congress;

21. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, in collaboration with Member States, a wide and effective programme of public information relating to the preparations for the Fourteenth Congress, to the Congress itself and to the follow-up to and implementation of its recommendations;

22. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to accord sufficient time at its twenty-eighth session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Fourteenth Congress, to finalize in a timely manner all outstanding organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its recommendations to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-eighth session.

Draft resolution III
The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are the indispensable foundation of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels,[1] including that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Mindful of its resolution 72/119 of 7 December 2017, entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels", as well as all its previous resolutions on that topic,

Mindful also of its resolution 72/196 of 19 December 2017, entitled "Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity", as well as all its previous resolutions on that topic,

Mindful further of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2004/25 of 21 July 2004, 2005/21 of 22 July 2005 and 2006/25 of 27 July 2006 on strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, as well as the technical assistance activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in that area, including in post-conflict reconstruction,

Recalling its resolutions 67/186 of 20 December 2012, entitled "Strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, particularly in the areas related to the United Nations system-wide approach to fighting transnational organized crime and drug trafficking", and 68/188 of 18 December 2013, entitled "The rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015",

Aware of the importance of its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which includes the commitment to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

Expressing its grave concern about the negative effects of all manifestations of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and

[1] Resolution 67/1.

international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Expressing appreciation for the ongoing efforts of Member States to promote the rule of law and strengthen crime prevention and criminal justice, including by integrating development programmes into their initiatives in this regard,

Convinced that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and its Member States,

Emphasizing its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in particular those affected by crime and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

Encouraging Member States to consider using and applying the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice to strengthen fair and effective criminal justice systems, bearing in mind the importance of the rule of law and its relevance for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Stressing the significance of a well-functioning, efficient, fair, effective and humane criminal justice system as the basis for a successful strategy against transnational organized crime, corruption, terrorism, illicit drug production, manufacturing and trafficking, trafficking in persons and other dangerous forms of trafficking,

Recognizing the importance of the rule of law to all areas of engagement within the United Nations system, and noting with appreciation the progress made in ensuring coherence and coordination of activities to support the rule of law, in cooperation with the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, while recognizing the different mandates of different United Nations entities,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts by Governments to promote and consolidate the rule of law are undertaken in accordance with the Charter, and stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building,

Emphasizing the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,[2] in which Member States recognized the importance of effective, fair, humane and accountable crime prevention and

[2] Resolution 70/174, annex.

criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them as a central component of the rule of law,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies and national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development and the promotion of the rule of law, including the fostering of a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities, in accordance with the Doha Declaration, should be integral elements of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

Aware that the high-level political forum on sustainable development, at its meeting in 2019, which will have as its theme "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality", will review, inter alia, the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16,

Recalling Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017, entitled "Mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime",[1]

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of its resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which includes the commitment to promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

2. *Urges* Member States to continue to recognize the cross-cutting nature of the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice and development, and recommends that such linkages and interrelationships be properly addressed and further elaborated, while reiterating the commitments made with regard to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular in connection with the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16;

3. *Renews its call upon* relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue cooperating and coordinating their activities, within their respective mandates, to promote a more integrated approach to the provision of assistance for building capacity in the area of the rule of law and criminal justice reform and to further explore joint projects in that area;

4. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[2] when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10* (E/2017/30), chap. I, sect. D.

5. *Emphasizes* the commitment expressed in the Doha Declaration to holistic and comprehensive approaches to countering crime, violence, corruption and terrorism in all their forms and manifestations, and to ensuring that those responses are implemented in a coordinated and coherent way, along with broader programmes or measures for social and economic development, poverty eradication, respect for cultural diversity, social peace and social inclusion;

6. *Urges* Member States to mainstream crime prevention strategies with a gender perspective that are aimed at children and youth into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes, including those addressing education, health, civic participation, socioeconomic opportunities, information and communications technology and public safety and security, in order to protect children and youth from social marginalization and exclusion and to reduce their risk of becoming victims or offenders, and to this end to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 3 to 5, 8 to 11, 16 and 17;

7. *Also urges* Member States to adopt integrated and comprehensive responses to violence against women in order to reduce risks of gender-related killing through early intervention and risk assessment, exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish gender-related killing of women and girls, ensure equal protection of women under the law and equal access to justice, consider adopting an integrated, multidisciplinary and gender-sensitive approach to the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of gender-related killing of women and girls to minimize the risk of secondary victimization in the criminal justice system, develop appropriate mechanisms and enhance capacities for forensic investigations to identify human remains and missing persons and, to these ends, strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 5 and 16;

8. *Invites* Member States to promote educational programmes related to crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular for young people, that foster an understanding of justice and the rule of law, which is an approach to be taken by Governments towards the general public to promote trust and respect for the law and its enforcement, and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 4 and 16;

9. *Also invites* Member States to intensify, in line with their domestic legal frameworks, national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 4, 5, 8, 10 and 16;

10. *Encourages* Member States, with the active participation of the private sector, to promote crime prevention and social inclusion programmes and employability schemes for vulnerable members of society, including victims and those released from prison, and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 1 to 5, 8, 10, 11 and 16;

11. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt effective measures to prevent and counter the serious problem of crimes that have an impact on the environment, such as trafficking in wildlife, including fauna and flora as protected by the Convention on

International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[4] and poaching, as well as illicit trafficking in forest products, including timber, and, to these ends, to strive to achieve all relevant Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 13 to 16;

12. *Acknowledges* the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, in the area of education for justice, including under the Education for Justice initiative, which is a key component of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, and requests the Office to continue its efforts to promote education on the rule of law and justice in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant stakeholders;

13. *Notes* that the main theme of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Kyoto, Japan, in 2020, will be "Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda", and looks forward to fruitful discussions at the regional preparatory meetings and at the Congress on that subject;

14. *Invites* Member States participating in the regional preparatory meetings for the Fourteenth Congress to make specific proposals and recommendations in line with its theme, related to the advancement of the rule of law, for consideration by the Congress;

15. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in improving systems for collecting and analysing data on crime prevention and criminal justice at all levels, where necessary, including gender-specific data, in order to promote the rule of law and achieve sustainable development, and notes the application of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen the rule of law, taking into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, its efforts towards the implementation of its mandates and, as appropriate, the global follow-up and thematic review relating to its existing mandates, which are essential for strengthening the maintenance of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including by providing special support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to enable it to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up to and thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in General Assembly resolution 70/299;

18. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to promote the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals, handbooks and capacity-building material developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General towards stronger coordination and integration of rule of law assistance, through specialized and relevant international organizations, in order to enhance predictability, coherence, accountability and effectiveness in the delivery of rule of law assistance at the national and international levels, and encourages further participation by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in such arrangements, in particular with regard to police, justice and corrections;

20. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network to continue to include in their work programme the issue of the rule of law and the provision of assistance to States, at their request, in responding to the challenges posed to the rule of law and development, as well as to strengthen their efforts to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

21. *Calls upon* Member States, international organizations and all relevant stakeholders to provide to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime their views on advancing crime prevention and criminal justice, in the context of Sustainable Development Goal 16, as well as their views on the contribution that the Fourteenth Congress, considering its main theme, could make to the furtherance of these issues, and requests the Office to report to the Congress on that matter;

22. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes set out in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

Draft resolution IV
Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 67/1 of 19 September 2012, 69/193 and 69/196 of 18 December 2014, 70/178 and 70/182 of 17 December 2015, 71/209 of 19 December 2016 and 72/196 of 19 December 2017,

Reaffirming also its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[1] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[2] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[3] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[4] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[5] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

Recalling the importance of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted by the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[6]

Welcoming Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/16 of 2 July 2018 on the follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and recalling that the theme of the Fourteenth Congress, to be held in Kyoto, Japan, from 20 to 27 April 2020, will be "Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda",

Reaffirming its resolution 73/___ of _____ 2018 on enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which Member States were encouraged to raise awareness about the work of the Commission in the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming also its resolution 73/___ of _____ 2018 on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Expressing its grave concern about the negative effects of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.
[2] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[3] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[4] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[5] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.
[6] Resolution 70/174, annex.

about the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime and about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their financial and economic resources into the economy,

Expressing concern at the involvement of organized criminal groups, as well as the substantial increase in the volume, rate of transnational occurrence and range of criminal offences related to trafficking in precious metals and stones in some parts of the world, and the potential use of trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals as a source of funding for organized crime, other relevant criminal activities and terrorism,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and in this respect reaffirming its resolution 72/194 of 19 December 2017 on technical assistance for implementing the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and in this respect welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, [7] which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Emphasizing that transnational organized crime must be addressed with full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive crime prevention policies, national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development and the promotion of the rule of law, including the fostering of a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities, in accordance with the Doha Declaration, should be integral elements of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

Reaffirming its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in particular for those affected by crime and

[7] Resolution 70/1.

those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter crime motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

Taking note of resolution 25/2 of 27 May 2016 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers,[8] in which the Commission encouraged Member States to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures to ensure that effective legal aid, including for victims of crime, is provided consistent with their domestic legislation and in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,[9] and which also contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Welcoming the efforts made by some Member States to establish a common documentation standard as a tool for facilitating both technical interoperability and accessibility of legal documentation,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact of corruption on development and on the enjoyment of human rights, and recognizing the universal importance of good governance, transparency, integrity and accountability, thus calling for a zero-tolerance approach to corruption and more effective measures to prevent and counter corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as measures to prevent the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of crime,

Welcoming resolution 7/2 of 10 November 2017 on preventing and combating corruption in all its forms more effectively, including, among others, when it involves vast quantities of assets, based on a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, adopted at the seventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Vienna from 6 to 10 November 2017,

Welcoming also the progress made with regard to the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and stressing the importance of effective implementation of the Convention in all its aspects by all States parties,

Bearing in mind that, pursuant to chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention and that the States parties to the Convention shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard,

Recognizing that, thanks to their nearly universal adherence and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[10] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer fundamental legal bases for international cooperation to support the investigation and prosecution of crimes covered by those Conventions, including for extradition, mutual legal assistance and

[8] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[9] Resolution 67/187, annex.

[10] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

confiscation and asset recovery, and that they provide effective mechanisms that should be further implemented and utilized in practice,

Welcoming, in this respect, the high-level debate held on 23 May 2018 to mark the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to highlight emerging trends and promote the effective implementation of the Convention, and taking note of the summary of the discussion prepared by the President of the General Assembly and transmitted to the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and to all Member States,

Recognizing the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Group of 20 Hamburg Summit communiqué, and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that Group of 20 initiatives complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

Stressing the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, to effectively address the world drug problem, dismantle illicit networks and counter transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, illicit financial flows, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law, and stressing also in this respect the importance of law enforcement cooperation and exchange of information, as well as of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, as well as the importance of the coordinating role of relevant regional networks,

Noting the important contribution that public-private sector cooperation can make in efforts to prevent and combat criminal activities, such as transnational organized crime, corruption, cybercrime and terrorism, in particular in the tourism sector,

Reaffirming the commitments made by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006, [11] and its successive biennial reviews, in particular in its resolution 72/284 of 26 June 2018, in which it encouraged Member States and United Nations entities to strengthen and better coordinate their actions against terrorism and to prevent and combat violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including through technical assistance provided to Member States upon their request, and highlighting in this respect the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established through its resolution 71/291 of 15 June 2017 on strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,

Highlighting the importance of its resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism adopted at its seventy-third session,

[11] Resolution 60/288.

Recalling its resolution 73/___ of _____ 2018 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Recalling also its resolutions 66/177 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime, as well as measures to enhance national confiscation regimes and international cooperation, including in asset recovery, and recalling further its resolution 72/207 of 20 December 2017, in which, inter alia, it reiterated deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies, and especially on developing countries,

Expressing concern that terrorists may benefit from transnational organized crime in some regions, including from the trafficking of arms, persons, human organs, drugs and cultural property and from the illicit trade in natural resources, including oil, and in oil products, modular refineries and related material, precious metals, stones and other minerals, charcoal and wildlife, as well as from kidnapping for ransom and other crimes, including extortion, money-laundering and bank robbery, and condemning the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated by terrorist groups in some countries,

Taking into consideration all resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance,

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking for the purpose of developing an effective and comprehensive approach to those crimes within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention and criminal justice reform, data and information analysis, preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes,

crimes that affect the environment, illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, counterfeiting in trademark goods, match-fixing, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants, organ trafficking, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, drug trafficking and terrorism, including progress in tackling the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, as well as in the area of international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of a regional approach to programming, based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national and regional levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

Reiterating its concern regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and welcoming the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office,

Welcoming resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime,[12]

Reaffirming its resolution 71/170 of 19 December 2016, entitled "Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: domestic violence", recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages, and recalling also the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-eighth session, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,[13]

Reiterating its condemnation of all forms of violence against women and girls, expressing deep concern about gender-related killing of women and girls, recalling all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 68/191 of 18 December 2013 and 70/176 of 17 December 2015 on taking action against gender-related killing of women and girls, and recognizing the key role of law enforcement and the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to gender-related killing of women and girls, including by ending impunity for such crimes,

Noting the significance of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[14] as a way to assist countries in strengthening their

[12] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10* (E/2017/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[13] Ibid., 2014, Supplement No. 7 (E/2014/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[14] Resolution 69/194, annex.

national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

Recalling its resolution 69/194 of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, including through sports, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting in particular child victims of all forms of violence, including those in contact with the law and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, consistent with the obligations of the States parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[15] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[16] and noting other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice, where appropriate,

Taking note with appreciation of the partnership between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in promoting the importance of education as an effective tool for the prevention of crime and terrorism, under the Education for Justice initiative,

Emphasizing the relevance of international instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, in particular women and juveniles,

Recalling its resolution 70/146 of 17 December 2015, in which it reaffirmed that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Stressing the importance of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials[17] and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,[18] which are voluntary guidelines that emphasize, inter alia, efficient and human rights-based policing,

Recalling its resolution 65/229 of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and in this regard encouraging the efforts of Member States to implement the Bangkok Rules,

Welcoming the adoption, by its resolution 70/175 of 17 December 2015, of the revision to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), and the adoption of Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/16 of 6 July 2017, in which, inter alia, Member States were encouraged to endeavour to improve conditions of imprisonment and to promote the practical application of the Nelson Mandela Rules as the universally acknowledged and updated minimum standards for the treatment of prisoners, to use the Rules as a guide in the development of prison

[15] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[16] Ibid., vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

[17] Resolution 34/169, annex.

[18] See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

laws, policies and practices, to continue exchanging good practices and identifying challenges faced in the practical application of the Rules and to share their experiences in dealing with those challenges,

Welcoming also Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/19 of 6 July 2017 on promoting and encouraging the implementation of alternatives to imprisonment as part of comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to identify and protect the victims of such trafficking, and a robust criminal justice response, and recalling in this respect the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[19] and its resolutions 70/179 of 17 December 2015, 71/167 of 19 December 2016 and 72/195 of 19 December 2017,

Recalling its resolution 73/___ of _____ 2018 on strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs,

Welcoming its resolution 72/1 of 27 September 2017, by which it adopted the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Underlining that Member States need to recognize that the crime of smuggling of migrants and the crime of trafficking in persons are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, and recalling its resolutions 69/187 of 18 December 2014 and 70/147 of 17 December 2015, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, including migrant children and adolescents, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2014/23 of 16 July 2014 and 2015/23 of 21 July 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1, in which it, inter alia, committed to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour,

Recalling its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, by which it adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which addresses the issue of large movements of refugees and migrants,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, established in accordance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, as well as the important contribution of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

Concerned at the growing involvement of terrorist and organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated recently by terrorist groups, which is linked to trafficking in cultural property in some countries and to financing of terrorist activities,

Recognizing the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner, and underlining the importance of the practical assistance tool aimed at supporting the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences[20] through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in this respect welcoming Commission resolution 27/5 of 18 May 2018,[21] and the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 68/186 of 18 December 2013, 69/196 and 70/76 of 9 December 2015, and facilitating operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, and the request to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide practical assistance in the implementation of the Guidelines and to facilitate cooperation in this area, including in countering the financing of terrorism in accordance with resolution 70/177 of 17 December 2015,

Affirming that the destruction of cultural heritage, which is representative of the diversity of human culture, erases the collective memories of a nation, destabilizes communities and threatens their cultural identity, and emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and pluralism as well as freedom of religion and belief for achieving peace, stability, reconciliation and social cohesion, and recalling in this respect its resolution 70/76,

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity and its various contributions to sustainable development and human well-being, and recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the Earth which must be protected for this generation and the generations to come,

Emphasizing that the protection of wildlife must be part of a comprehensive approach to achieving poverty eradication, food security, sustainable development, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, economic growth, social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Expressing deep concern about crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, and in hazardous waste, and emphasizing the need to combat such crimes by strengthening coordinated action to eliminate, prevent and combat corruption and disrupt illicit networks and also by coordinating international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

Recognizing, in this respect, the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna

[20] Resolution 69/196, annex.

[21] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 10* (E/2018/30), chap. I, sect. C.

and Flora[22] as the primary mechanism for regulating international trade in species of wild fauna and flora listed in its appendices,

Recalling the adoption of its resolutions 69/314 of 30 July 2015, 70/301 of 9 September 2016 and 71/326 of 11 September 2017 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife,

Concerned at the growing trend of cybercrime and the misuse of information and communications technologies in multiple forms of crime,

Welcoming, in this respect, resolution 26/4 of 26 May 2017 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime,[12] in which the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime was requested to continue its work and exchange of information on national legislation, best practices, technical assistance and international cooperation with a view to examining options to strengthen existing responses and propose new national and international legal or other responses to cybercrime, and was encouraged to develop possible conclusions and recommendations for submission to the Commission,

Concerned at the serious challenges and threats posed by illicit trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about its links with other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, as well as terrorism,

Noting international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[23] the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[24] and the entry into force in 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty,[25]

Reaffirming its resolution 71/211 of 19 December 2016 on international cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem, and reaffirming also the outcome document, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem," adopted at the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 21 April 2016,[26] and the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session,[27] and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[28]

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[22] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

[23] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[24] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[25] See resolution 67/234 B.

[26] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[27] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[28] Ibid., 2014, *Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolutions 64/293, 69/199 and 72/196;[29]

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, when appropriate, to take into consideration the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation, adopted at the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Doha from 12 to 19 April 2015,[6] when formulating legislation and policy directives, and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States, including through its Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration;

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[1] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[2] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[3] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[4] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[5] and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

5. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime, and notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 189, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime;

6. *Welcomes* the adoption of resolution 9/1 of 19 October 2018, entitled "Establishment of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto", at the ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 15 to 19 October 2018, and urges States parties to implement and support the Mechanism;

7. *Also welcomes* the decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth session to promote greater use of the Convention by central authorities in extradition and mutual legal assistance and to enhance the effectiveness of these authorities and to strengthen, as appropriate, the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and

[29] A/73/131.

Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[24]

8. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, notes the progress made under the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, and further notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 136, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating corruption and related crimes;

9. *Also urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to increase their efforts and to take measures to prevent and counter corruption, with the necessary focus on, among others, acts of corruption that involve vast quantities of assets, without undermining their commitment to preventing and countering corruption at all levels and in all forms, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure that legal and natural persons are held accountable for corruption offences, including when they involve vast quantities of assets, in accordance with the Convention;

10. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and calls upon States parties to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by those bodies, including providing information regarding compliance with the treaties;

11. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, within existing resources and during the seventy-third session, a high-level debate on the role of regional organizations in strengthening and implementing crime prevention initiatives and criminal justice responses, and to prepare a President's summary of the discussion for transmission to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to all Member States;

12. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of crime, while supporting an effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice system and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to adopt and reinforce measures to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems, and, in this context, takes note of the establishment of the Global Judicial Integrity Network in April 2018;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, including, inter alia, in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters, to strengthen the rule of law, also taking into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

14. *Calls for* greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with stakeholders, including donors, host countries and recipients of capacity-building, in countering transnational organized crime;

15. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates;

16. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending, and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, and stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States, in accordance with the commitments contained in General Assembly resolutions 70/1 and 70/299;

17. *Recommends* that Member States adopt multisectoral crime prevention policies and programmes for youth, taking into consideration their varying needs, and safeguard their well-being, recognizing that youth may face specific challenges and risk factors that make them particularly vulnerable to crime, all forms of violence, terrorism and victimization;

18. *Urges* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to develop national, subregional, regional and international strategies, with the support of relevant international organizations, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, including the establishment, in accordance with domestic legislation, of designated central and competent authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, in order to effectively address transnational organized crime; to strengthen all forms of cooperation to enable the return of illicitly acquired assets in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate; and to inform accordingly the Office about existing or updated contact details of such authorities and points of contact to facilitate international cooperation as appropriate;

19. *Encourages* Member States to study the implementation of a common documentation standard, including within the United Nations system and in cooperation with relevant international institutions;

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices in respect of all forms of organized crime, including piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, the use of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children, trafficking in cultural

property and artefacts, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, match-fixing, trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals, counterfeiting in trademark goods, crimes that affect the environment, illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, drug trafficking, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, organ trafficking, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, as well as corruption and terrorism;

21. *Encourages* Member States to collect relevant information and to further identify, analyse and counter any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between transnational organized crime, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its relevant mandates, to support, upon request, the efforts of Member States in that regard;

22. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen cooperation at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing, logistical support, as appropriate, and capacity-building activities, such as those provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to share and adopt best practices to identify foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent the travel of foreign terrorist fighters from, into or through Member States, to prevent the financing, mobilization, recruitment and organization of foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent and counter violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, to enhance efforts to implement prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies, taking into account gender and age dimensions, and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in the supporting of terrorist acts is brought to justice, in compliance with obligations under international law, as well as applicable domestic law, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the Office of Counter-Terrorism;

23. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further enhance technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of Member States to become party to and implement the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice and law enforcement officials, upon request, and the development of technical tools and publications, within its mandate;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to address the threat posed by radicalization to terrorism in prisons, and calls upon the United Nations, especially the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to support Member States in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the Office of Counter-Terrorism;

25. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

26. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its country and regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impacts in the fight against transnational organized crime in all its forms, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, efforts towards the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to the Commissions within their respective mandates, enabling them to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up and the thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in resolutions 70/299 and 72/305 of 23 July 2018;

28. *Urges* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its research, operational and technical cooperation activities;

29. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General, also considering the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

30. *Invites* States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and to the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery;

31. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia, raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination;

32. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of

discrimination, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

33. *Calls upon* Member States to implement, when appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[30] bearing in mind their spirit and purpose, and to intensify their efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and measures and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in this respect;

34. *Invites* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, including by the use of non-custodial measures for women, when appropriate, and by improving the treatment of women prisoners, taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[31] and by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence and to strengthen the crime prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support the practical capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and welcomes in this respect the practical tools recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014;[32]

35. *Also invites* Member States to integrate child- and youth-related issues into their criminal justice reform efforts, recognizing the importance of protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, consistent with the obligations of parties under relevant international instruments, and to develop comprehensive child-sensitive justice policies focused on the best interests of the child, consistent with the principle that the deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

36. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing their abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

37. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties to effectively implement, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against

[30] Resolution 70/175, annex.
[31] Resolution 65/229, annex.
[32] See E/CN.15/2015/16.

Transnational Organized Crime,[33] to reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of the Protocol and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

38. *Takes note* of the launch of the first United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants*, encourages Member States to promote the reliable collection of relevant data and research, at the national and, as appropriate, the regional and international levels, and invites the Office to systematically collect data and information from Member States on migrant smuggling routes, the modus operandi of migrant smugglers and the role of transnational organized crime, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

39. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is a standard practice, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through those crimes, and to consider trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants to be predicate offences of money-laundering;

40. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing and combating all forms of trafficking in persons, and in this regard expresses its concern about the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from such crimes, including for the purpose of organ removal, and calls upon Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties, in accordance with their obligations, to fully and effectively implement the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[19] as well as to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in accordance with all relevant legal obligations and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

41. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of travelling, returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, especially with regard to extradition and mutual legal assistance, and its financial sources, through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation and cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to contribute to the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established in

[33] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

accordance with resolution 71/291, and invites Member States to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with appropriate resources for its mandate;

42. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and international standards, including, where applicable, standards and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations and intergovernmental bodies against money-laundering, inter alia and as appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force, in accordance with national legislation;

43. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the effectiveness of countering criminal threats to the tourism sector, including terrorist threats, through, when appropriate, the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization and the private sector;

44. *Affirms* that attacks intentionally directed against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, or historic monuments, or hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, may amount to war crimes, stresses the importance of holding accountable perpetrators of attacks intentionally directed against the above-mentioned buildings, provided that they are not military objectives, and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to this end within their jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law;

45. *Urges* States parties to make effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, especially in returning such confiscated proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

46. *Encourages* States parties to promptly notify countries of origin when objects that may be cultural property removed from their territory are identified, and to exchange information and statistical data on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and reaffirms in this regard the importance of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/196;

47. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including publicizing legislation, international guidelines and related technical background documents, and offering special training for police, customs and border services, and invites Member States to make trafficking in cultural property, including stealing from and looting of archaeological and other cultural sites, a serious crime, as defined in article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

48. *Also urges* Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention,

investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade, as well as by strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard;

49. *Calls upon* Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora and in hazardous waste involving organized criminal groups a serious crime in accordance with their national legislation and with article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

50. *Also calls upon* Member States to take appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in precious metals and stones by organized criminal groups, including, where appropriate, the adoption and effective implementation of the necessary legislation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of illicit trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals;

51. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

52. *Notes with appreciation* the fourth meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime and the responses to cybercrime by Member States, the international community and the private sector, and calls upon Member States to support the work plan of the Expert Group and to explore specific measures and develop possible conclusions and recommendations designed to create a secure and resilient cyberenvironment, to prevent and counter effectively criminal activities carried out over the Internet, paying particular attention to identity fraud-related offences, recruitment for the purpose of trafficking in persons and protecting children from online exploitation and abuse, to strengthen law enforcement cooperation at the national and international levels, including with the aim of identifying and protecting victims by, inter alia, removing child pornography and other child sexual abuse material from the Internet, to enhance the security of computer networks and protect the integrity of relevant infrastructure, and to endeavour to provide long-term technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen the ability of national authorities to deal with cybercrime, including the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of such crime in all its forms;

53. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts in combating cybercrime and all forms of criminal misuse of information and communications technologies and to enhance international cooperation involving electronic evidence in this regard;

54. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address the links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, legislative assistance, technical support, improved data collection and analysis and strengthened national statistical systems, and in this respect invites Member States to provide the Office with relevant information and

suitably disaggregated data through the regular data collection instrument on firearms trafficking;

55. *Urges* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping technologies, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms;

56. *Urges* States parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition that import and export parts and components of firearms to reinforce their control measures in line with the Protocol and other relevant international legal instruments to which they are party, with a view to preventing and reducing the risks of their diversion, illicit manufacturing and trafficking;

57. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify all efforts to address the world drug problem, based upon the principle of common and shared responsibility and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, including through more effective bilateral, regional and international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, to counter the involvement of organized criminal groups in illicit drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities and to take steps to reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking;

58. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments, regular data collection and analysis, and focusing on all sectors of the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, including ones that focus on early prevention by using multidisciplinary and participatory approaches, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;

59. *Invites* Member States to start the gradual adoption of the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to strengthen national statistical systems of criminal justice, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to strengthen the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable, timely and comparable data and information, including, as appropriate, data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant criteria, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

60. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge of crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension and in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

61. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United

Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals, handbooks and capacity-building material developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

62. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

63. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

Draft resolution V
Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes

The General Assembly,

Noting that information and communications technologies, while having enormous potential for the development of States, create new opportunities for criminals and lead to a rise in crime,

Noting also the potential of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, in preventing and combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

Concerned by the increase in the rate and diversity of crimes committed in the digital world and their impact on the stability of critical infrastructure of States and enterprises and on the well-being of individuals,

Recognizing that diverse criminals, including traffickers in persons, are taking advantage of information and communications technologies to carry out criminal activities,

Stressing the need to enhance coordination and cooperation among States in combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, including by providing technical assistance to developing countries upon their request to improve national legislation and build the capacity of national authorities to deal with such use in all its forms, including its prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution, and emphasizing in this context the role that the United Nations, in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, plays,

Recalling resolution 22/8 of 26 April 2013 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[1] in which the Commission welcomed the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in fulfilling its mandate to provide technical assistance and capacity-building on cybercrime,

Noting the work, carried out by the Commission, under the auspices of which an open-ended intergovernmental expert group was established to counter the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

Recalling its resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010, in which the General Assembly endorsed the Salvador Declaration on Comprehensive Strategies for Global Challenges: Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Systems and Their Development in a Changing World,[2]

Considering the discussions held during the first to fourth meetings of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 January 2011, 25 to 28 February 2013, 10 to 13 April 2017 and 3 to 5 April 2018, about the need to further enhance international discussion and cooperation against cybercrime,

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 10* (E/2013/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[2] Resolution 65/230, annex.

Noting the importance of the international and regional instruments in the fight against cybercrime and the ongoing efforts to examine options to strengthen existing and propose new national and international legal or other responses to the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 66/181 of 19 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/193 of 18 December 2013, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015, 71/28 of 5 December 2016, 72/196 of 19 December 2017,

Taking note of the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,[3]

Taking note also of resolution 26/4 of 26 May 2017 of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[4] in which the Commission expressed appreciation for the work done by the Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime and requested the Expert Group to continue its work with a view to examining options to strengthen existing responses and to propose new national and international legal or other responses to cybercrime,

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the challenges they face in countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes and to present a report based on those views for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

2. *Decides* that the additional costs that may arise from the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

3. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session an item entitled "Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes".

[3] A/65/201, A/68/98 and A/70/174.

[4] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10* (E/2017/30), chap. I, sect. D.

Draft resolution VI
United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/180 of 17 December 2015 and 71/207 of 19 December 2016 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Bearing in mind that weaknesses in crime prevention lead to subsequent difficulties at the level of crime control mechanisms, and bearing in mind also the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Aware of the devastating impact of new and more dynamic crime trends on the national economies of African States, such as the high levels of transnational organized crime, including the utilization of digital technology to commit all types of cybercrime, and aware also of illicit trafficking in cultural property, drugs, precious metals, rhinoceros horns and ivory, of piracy and money-laundering and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and that criminal justice procedures will have to be more cost-conscious, timely and expeditious and sensitive to public responses to minimize or eliminate any suspicion of compromise,

Emphasizing that combating crime is a collective endeavour to meet the global challenge of organized crime and that investment of necessary resources in crime prevention is important to that aim and contributes to sustainable development,

Noting with concern that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging the challenges that Africa faces in litigation processes and the management of correctional institutions,

Recognizing that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

[1] A/73/133

Recognizing the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies,

Emphasizing the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in the process of achieving effective crime prevention policies,

Recalling the undertaking and conclusion of a preliminary diagnostic study by a consultant of the Economic Commission for Africa prior to the commencement of a full system-wide review process, including the significance of the Institute as a viable mechanism for promoting cooperation among the relevant entities to respond to the crime problem afflicting Africa,

Expressing concern over the continued absence of a director of the Institute, and noting the important role of such senior management positions in ensuring the normal functioning of the Institute,

Noting with concern that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner, and noting that one of the findings of the preliminary diagnostic study is that the Institute urgently needs to increase its income,

Recalling the detailed description provided in the report of the Secretary-General of funding deficiencies that have severely undermined the Institute's capacity to serve the needs of the region, and recognizing that crime results in the expenditure of a significant amount of resources,

Bearing in mind that the Institute is an important component of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice network, and that without the necessary funds, the Institute will fail to accomplish its vital goals of combating drug trafficking, cybercrime and environmental crimes, among other challenges, as well as its goals of reforming the crucial deficiencies in the region's prosecution system and building effective and strong alliances among law enforcement personnel, professional bodies, academic institutions, individual communities, experts and traditional and civil authorities in order to proactively prevent crime,

Acknowledging the Member States and organizations that have maintained their commitment to the fulfilment of their financial obligations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote, coordinate and carry out more activities within its core mandate, including regional technical cooperation related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa, despite the resource constraints under which it is operating;

2. *Welcomes* the decision of the Governing Board of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders to adopt the strategic plan for the period 2017–2021 to address crime in an integrated manner by strengthening national capacities for crime prevention and criminal justice, and calls upon Member States, including those members of the Institute, all relevant entities of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to give the necessary support for its full implementation;

3. *Acknowledges* the progress made by African States in the implementation of the revised African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2013–2017) and the mechanism for its implementation, follow-up and evaluation;

4. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness about the work of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and its relevance to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[2]

5. *Reaffirms* the need to further strengthen the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

6. *Also reaffirms* the benefits, in some cases, of the utilization of alternative remedial measures, where appropriate, applying standards of ethical conduct and using local traditions, counselling and other emerging correctional rehabilitation measures, consistent with the obligations of States under international law;

7. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries which are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

8. *Encourages* the Institute, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focus attention on the coordination of activities that promote development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies;

9. *Urges* States members of the Institute that have failed to meet their financial pledges to the Institute to pay all or part of those outstanding arrears, taking into consideration that Member States are to fund 73 per cent of the approved budget, and in this regard encourages all Member States and organizations to fully honour their financial obligations;

10. *Recalls* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

11. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

12. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[3] as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[4] and encourages States parties that have not yet implemented the conventions to inform the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of any impediments they encounter and of their need for technical assistance to overcome those impediments;

[2] Resolution 70/1.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[4] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

13. *Encourages* African States that are not yet members of the Institute to consider becoming member States in order to enhance its collaborative efforts and enlarge its support base and thereby strengthen the fight against crime and terrorism, which hamper individual and collective development efforts on the continent;

14. *Commends* the continued support provided by the Government of Uganda as host country, including resolving the issue of the ownership of the land on which the Institute is located and facilitating the Institute's collaboration with other stakeholders within Uganda and the region and with international partners;

15. *Also commends* the efforts of the Institute in implementing several programmes in the region, which have contributed, inter alia, to a growing set of coordinated remedial responses to crime on the basis of technical support in facilitating mutual assistance by law enforcement agencies and the emergence of regional jurisdictions;

16. *Recalls* the Institute's initiative to collaborate with relevant universities to operationalize the link between criminal justice authorities and sources of traditional justice approaches, so as to harmonize the use of restorative practices where they may be appropriate;

17. *Also recalls* the Institute's initiatives to work with specific academic and specialized human rights institutions that are connected to other professional networks in the region to promote curricula that have a strong crime prevention and criminal justice component;

18. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country, with specific emphasis on tailoring practitioner training and development efforts to address identified vulnerabilities, and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

19. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute, and requests the Institute to provide the annual report on its activities to the Office as well as to the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

21. *Notes* the ongoing efforts by the Governing Board of the Institute to mobilize States members of the Institute with a view to obtaining and reaffirming their financial commitment to the Institute in line with the decision of the Board, taken in Lilongwe on 29 May 2015, to address the decline in financial support for the programmes of the Institute;

22. *Reiterates its request*, made to the Secretary-General in its resolution 71/207, taking into consideration the Strategic Plan of the Institute for the period 2017–2021, to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

23. *Also reiterates* its request, made to the Secretary-General in its resolution 71/207, to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate, bearing in mind that the precarious financial situation of the Institute greatly undermines its capacity to respond positively and effectively to the growing need in the prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders;

24. *Invites* Member States and other partners to consider providing extrabudgetary resources to enable the Institute to effectively implement its mandate;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on further strengthening the capacity of the Institute.

Draft resolution VII
Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[1]

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[2] and recognizing its integrated and indivisible nature,

Reaffirming the commitments by Member States to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate all forms of trafficking in persons,

Recalling its resolutions 59/156 of 20 December 2004, entitled "Preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs", 71/322 of 8 September 2017, entitled "Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs", and 72/195 of 19 December 2017, entitled "Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons", as well as Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 23/2 of 16 May 2014[3] and 25/1 of 27 May 2016[4] on preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[5] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[6]

Recalling the adoption of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

Welcoming the adoption of the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 27 and 28 September 2017,[7]

Recognizing the need for a multidisciplinary approach, based on respect for all human rights, to combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).
[2] Resolution 70/1.
[3] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 10* (E/2014/30), chap. I, sect. D.
[4] Ibid., *2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.
[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[6] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.
[7] Resolution 72/1.

Taking note with appreciation of the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation, endorsed by the sixty-third World Health Assembly in its resolution 63.22 of 21 May 2010,[8]

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the issue of trafficking in persons for the removal of organs submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session,[9]

Welcoming the joint study by the United Nations and the Council of Europe, entitled "Trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs", and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime assessment toolkit, entitled "Trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal", and taking note of the study by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, entitled "Trafficking in persons for the removal of organs: advancing a human rights approach and engaging human rights mechanisms", and the 2018 edition of the Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism,

Taking note of the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs as the first regional legally binding document that provides a list of activities that constitute trafficking in human organs and includes provisions to prevent and combat this crime, to protect its victims and to promote cooperation among parties in the fight against this crime, which usually has a transnational scope,

Affirming that trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs constitute crimes that violate and impair the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and have strong health implications, and stressing that it is essential to place the protection of all human rights at the centre of measures to prevent and end such trafficking,

Recognizing that, although differences exist between the crimes of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, both crimes are related to the shortage of human organs available for transplantation and to social and economic difficulties that make people vulnerable, and that prevention of and response to both crimes must be undertaken in an effective and coordinated manner,

Considering that the whole process of donation and transplantation of human organs should be an established part of national health services provided to the public, that the process should take place under conditions aimed at the protection of the rights of donors and recipients of organs and that health-care systems should be instrumental in ensuring such conditions,

Considering also that the commercial trade in human organs is prohibited in almost all Member States and that both trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs have a profound impact on the health both of those who sell their organs and of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as on recipients of organs obtained in such circumstances, and that both crimes might represent a threat to public health and may, in some cases, affect the integrity and the functioning of health-care systems,

[8] See World Health Organization, document WHA63/2010/REC/1.

[9] See A/68/256.

Alarmed at the exploitation by criminal groups that take advantage of human needs, poverty and destitution and of other people in vulnerable situations for the purpose of trafficking in human organs, and trafficking in persons for the purpose of the removal of organs,

Noting the need to protect living donors and recipients, who are usually the most vulnerable members of society, from exploitation by traffickers in human organs, including by providing them with relevant information, as well as the need to investigate, prosecute and punish those traffickers and to provide assistance to victims,

Emphasizing the importance of respecting and protecting the rights of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, when recognized in national legislation, addressing the vulnerability of victims of trafficking in human organs, and providing assistance, as applicable,

Convinced of the need to strengthen local, regional and international cooperation for the effective prevention and combating of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs wherever they occur, and determined to prevent the provision of safe haven to those who participate in or profit from transnational organized crime and to prosecute such persons for the crimes they commit,

1. *Urges* Member States to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, in accordance with their obligations under international and national law, and to uphold accountability through measures that may include preventing and, in accordance with relevant national legislation, investigating, prosecuting and punishing trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal as well as trafficking in human organs;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[5] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[6] taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

3. *Urges* Member States to consider adopting the following measures related to organ transplantation, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation and in line with the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation:

(a) Strengthening legislative frameworks, including by reviewing, developing or amending them, as appropriate, to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, including the criminalization of these practices and provisions to ensure the accountability of the perpetrators;

(b) Adopting appropriate legislative measures necessary to guarantee that the donation of organs is guided by clinical criteria and ethical norms, based on the donors' informed and voluntary consent, as an altruistic act, performed without any monetary payment or other reward of monetary value, for the living donor or the family of the deceased donor, or any other person or entity, which does not preclude reimbursing reasonable and verifiable expenses incurred by donors;

(c) Ensuring equitable access to human organ transplantation, on the basis of non-discrimination, and increasing public awareness and understanding of the benefits resulting from the voluntary non-remunerated provision of organs from deceased and living donors, and of the physical, psychological and social risks to individuals and communities caused by trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of the removal of organs, as well as, transplant tourism;

(d) Ensuring that the removal of human organs from both deceased and living persons, as well as the transplantation of human organs, exclusively take place in centres specifically authorized for such activities by the relevant national health authorities and are not performed outside the framework of domestic transplantation systems or in situations where the transplantation is performed in breach of the guiding principles or national transplantation laws or rules;

(e) Developing and strengthening regulatory oversight of the medical facilities and medical professionals involved in the recovery and transplantation of human organs, including through control measures, such as periodic audits;

(f) Setting specific processes and criteria for the authorization of every organ removal and transplantation procedure;

(g) Establishing and developing registries that include information regarding each organ recovery and transplantation procedure and outcomes for living donors and recipients of organs, as well as identification systems that facilitate tracing each organ from donor to recipient and vice versa, with the purpose of ensuring the transparency of practices and the quality and safety of human organs, with due regard to professional confidentiality and personal data protection;

(h) Promoting the voluntary contribution of periodic information to international registers for organ donation and transplantation activity, such as the Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation developed in collaboration with the World Health Organization;

(i) Providing long-term medical and psychosocial care for both living donors and recipients;

4. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations and civil society to ensure sustained efforts in terms of information and awareness-raising activities aimed at fostering a positive attitude on the part of society regarding donation, including posthumous donation, as a gesture of altruism, solidarity and community participation, to warn of the risks of organ removal when performed in the context of trafficking, in particular among people in vulnerable situations at risk of becoming victims of this crime;

5. *Encourages* Member States to exchange experience in and information on preventing, prosecuting and punishing trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, to combat the illicit financial flows resulting from such trafficking, as well as on the protection of victims, as appropriate, and to strengthen international cooperation between all relevant actors;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to progress towards self-sufficiency in the transplantation of human organs by developing preventive strategies aimed at decreasing the incidence of diseases treatable through transplantation, and at ethically increasing the availability of human organs for transplantation purposes, with special

attention to maximizing donations from deceased donors and to protecting the health and welfare of living donors;

7. *Further encourages* Member States to develop effective and properly resourced organ donation and transplantation systems and provide technical assistance for their implementation in requesting countries;

8. *Encourages* Member States to provide training and capacity-building for law enforcement and border control officials, as well as for health-care professionals, on identifying potential cases, including on the Internet, of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and on the need to certify the origin of organs to be transplanted and to report suspected or confirmed illegal practices;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen international cooperation in responding to the crimes of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, as provided for in relevant and applicable law, including domestic and international law;

10. *Urges* Member States to further develop, in their domestic legislation, ways of protecting victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, as appropriate, ways of addressing the vulnerability of those individuals who sell their organs, including by considering the following measures:

(a) Adopting all necessary measures, including legal measures, to protect the rights and interests of victims in the course of all phases of criminal prosecution and judicial proceedings and to ensure accountability;

(b) Facilitating the access of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, as allowed by domestic law, of those individuals who sell their organs to appropriate relevant information related to their case, while respecting their anonymity, as well as to the necessary protection of their health and other rights that are at stake;

(c) Providing medical and psychosocial care to victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and individuals who sell their organs in the short, medium and long term;

(d) Ensuring that domestic legal systems contain measures that offer victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and individuals who sell their organs the possibility of obtaining effective compensation for the damage suffered;

(e) Promoting the creation of governmental mechanisms and providing support to specialized non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to address the needs of groups at risk of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal in order to facilitate the provision of holistic and early care to potential or actual victims of those crimes, and ensuring that all support measures are non-discriminatory, gender-, age- and culturally sensitive and comply with their international human rights obligations and national legislation;

11. *Welcomes* the establishment of the World Health Organization Task Force on Donation and Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues to advise and support the World Health Organization at all levels in disseminating and implementing guiding principles and capacity-building in order to ensure ethical practices in organ and tissue donation and transplantation worldwide;

12. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide guidelines to Member States for developing orderly, ethical and acceptable programmes for the acquisition and transplantation of human organs for therapeutic purposes, and to intensify the coordination of efforts in combating organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, including the development of additional transplantation registries;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage in a dialogue with members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and other relevant intergovernmental international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization, in close consultation with Member States, so as to enable the Office to improve data collection and analysis on instances of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and relevant prosecutions, and to promote research among diverse fields, such as the medical and health management fields, as well as on the part of the anti-trafficking community, while bearing in mind that data on trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal are being gathered for the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, in accordance with the provisions set out in General Assembly resolution 70/179 of 17 December 2015;

14. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration with other entities of the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization, to continue providing capacity-building and technical assistance to States, upon request, to assist them in strengthening national capacities to effectively prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs;

15. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the purpose of implementing the present resolution and to the World Health Organization to disseminate and implement the principles endorsed by World Health Assembly to address the ethical aspects of organ transplantation, such as voluntary and unpaid donation, universal access to transplant services, the availability, safety and quality of the procedures and national accountability through the development of sustainable transplant systems and the achievement of national self-sufficiency in order to stop organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as transplant tourism;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, all costs associated with it to be covered by extrabudgetary resources;

17. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-fifth session, under the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice".

Draft resolution VIII
Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009, 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 67/189 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012, 68/195 of 18 December 2013, 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and 71/208 of 19 December 2016 and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolutions 23/9 of 13 June 2013,[1] 29/11 of 2 July 2015[2] and 35/25 of 23 June 2017,[3]

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[4] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation,

Stressing the need for States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Bearing in mind the need to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, that the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention, and recalling article 51 of the Convention, under which States parties shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance with regard to asset return,

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels and in all its forms is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions —

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015 on the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcoming the adoption, at the high-level segment of the Thirteenth Congress, of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,[5] through which States committed to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank,

Recognizing that education plays a fundamental role in the prevention of and fight against corruption, inasmuch as it makes corrupt behaviour socially unacceptable,

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law at the national and international levels, the proper management of public affairs and democracy in the fight against corruption,

Acknowledging that good governance, at the national and international levels, has a role in the prevention of and fight against corruption,

Recognizing that improvements in the promotion and protection of human rights at the domestic level have a role to play in the prevention of and the fight against corruption at all levels,

Realizing that the fight against corruption at all levels, including by facilitating international cooperation to achieve the purposes enshrined in the Convention, including on asset recovery and return, plays an important role in the promotion and

[5] Resolution 70/174, annex.

protection of all human rights and in the process of creating an environment conducive to their full enjoyment and realization,

Recognizing that supportive national legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices, facilitating asset recovery and returning the proceeds of corruption to legitimate owners,

Recalling that the purposes of the Convention, as set out in article 1, are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, to promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including in asset recovery, and to promote the integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property,

Recalling also article 43, paragraph 1, of the Convention, in which States parties are encouraged, where appropriate and consistent with their domestic legal systems, to consider assisting each other in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption,

Welcoming the commitment of States parties to the Convention, in particular their determination to give effect to the obligations set out in chapter V of the Convention in order to prevent, detect, deter and recover in a more effective manner the international transfer of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery,

Recalling the third preambular paragraph of the Convention, in which States parties expressed concern about cases of corruption that involve vast quantities of assets, which may constitute a substantial proportion of the resources of States, and that threaten the political stability and sustainable development of those States,

Recognizing that those who engage in corrupt acts, whether natural or legal persons, should be held accountable and prosecuted by their domestic authorities, consistent with domestic law and the requirements of the Convention, and that all appropriate efforts should be made to conduct a financial investigation into assets illegally acquired by them and to recover such assets through domestic confiscation proceedings, international cooperation for purposes of confiscation or appropriate direct recovery measures,

Acknowledging that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels, including at the local and international levels, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III, and recognizing the strategic role of a holistic approach to countering corruption, money-laundering and transnational organized crime,

Welcoming resolution 7/8 of 10 November 2017 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on corruption in sport,[a] which, inter alia, noted with great concern the risk that corruption and economic crime, including money-laundering, pose to sport, as well as resolution 7/5 of 10 November 2017 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on promoting preventive measures against corruption,[a] which called upon States parties to continue implementing and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in

[a] See CAC/COSP/2017/15, sect. I.A.

chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties,

Noting the efforts of Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and bodies, intergovernmental organizations and forums and sport-related organizations to strengthen cooperation and further coordinate efforts to effectively mitigate the risks of corruption in sport, highlighting also the key role of public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder approaches,

Recognizing that the success of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption depends on the full commitment and constructive engagement of all States parties to the Convention in a progressive and comprehensive process, and recalling in that regard resolution 3/1 of 13 November 2009 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[7] including the terms of reference of the Mechanism contained in the annex to that resolution, decision 5/1 of 29 November 2013[8] and resolution 6/1 of 6 November 2015[9] of the Conference of the States Parties,

Noting with appreciation the commitment of States parties to the Convention to the first review cycle process of the Mechanism, both as countries under review and as reviewing States, as well as the support provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this regard,

Recognizing the launch of the second review cycle of the Mechanism pursuant to paragraph 13 of the terms of reference of the Mechanism and consistent with resolution 6/1 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,

Bearing in mind that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia and community-based organizations, if their efforts in this area are to be effective,

Reaffirming that strengthening international cooperation among law enforcement and other relevant agencies is a global imperative in order to effectively prevent and combat transnational corruption,

Affirming the importance of promoting dialogue among central authorities and practitioners prior to the submission of mutual legal assistance requests, which are particularly valuable in investigations of corruption, and coordination and cooperation on asset recovery through inter-agency networks, including regional networks, where appropriate,

Reaffirming its concern about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the Convention,

Expressing concern over illicit financial flows, and related tax evasion, corruption and money-laundering, and their negative impact on the world economy, and inviting Member States to consider developing strategies or policies to combat those practices and to curb the harmful effects of jurisdictions and territories that are

[7] See CAC/COSP/2009/15, sect. I.A.
[8] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.B.
[9] See CAC/COSP/2015/10, sect. I.

uncooperative in tax matters and to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows,

Noting the efforts made by all States parties to the Convention in tracing, freezing and recovering their stolen assets, and underlining the need to redouble efforts to assist in the recovery of those assets in order to preserve stability and sustainable development,

Recognizing that States continue to face challenges in recovering assets owing to differences between legal systems, the complexity of multijurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, the limited implementation of effective domestic tools such as non-conviction-based forfeiture for asset recovery, as well as other administrative or civil procedures leading to confiscation, lack of familiarity with the mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of corruption proceeds, and noting the particular challenges posed in recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions, as well as their family members and close associates,

Concerned about the difficulties, particularly the legal and practical difficulties, that both requested and requesting States face in asset recovery, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of stolen assets for sustainable development and stability, and noting the difficulty of providing information establishing a link between proceeds of corruption in the requested State and the crime committed in the requesting State, which in many cases can be difficult to prove,

Recognizing the common difficulties experienced by States parties to the Convention in establishing a nexus between identified assets and the crime from which such assets are derived, and emphasizing the critical importance of effective domestic investigative efforts and international cooperation to overcome such difficulties,

Recognizing also the critical importance of effective international cooperation in efforts to combat corruption, particularly with respect to offences specified in the Convention with a transnational element, and encouraging continued cooperation by States parties, consistent with the requirements of the Convention, in all efforts to investigate and prosecute natural and legal persons, including the use of other legal mechanisms, where appropriate, for offences specified in the Convention and to recover assets related to such offences, consistent with chapter V of the Convention,

Calling upon all States parties to the Convention and, in particular, requested and requesting States, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of corruption and demonstrate strong commitment to ensure the return or disposal of such proceeds in accordance with article 57 of the Convention,

Noting the responsibility of requesting and requested States parties to cooperate to ensure that a greater proportion of the proceeds emanating from corruption are recovered, returned or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Convention,

Concerned that some persons accused of crimes of corruption have managed to escape justice and thus have eluded the legal consequences of their actions and have been successful in hiding their assets,

Taking into account the need to hold corrupt officials accountable by depriving them of the illicit profits and proceeds of their crimes,

Acknowledging the vital importance of ensuring the independence and effectiveness of authorities charged with investigating and prosecuting crimes of corruption and of recovering the proceeds of such crimes by several means, such as establishing the necessary legal framework and allocating the necessary resources,

Acknowledging also the fundamental principles of due process of law in criminal proceedings and in civil or administrative proceedings to adjudicate property rights,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Concerned about the negative impact of widespread corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, recognizing that corruption constitutes one of the obstacles to the effective promotion and protection of human rights, as well as to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing also that corruption may disproportionately affect the most disadvantaged individuals of society,

Stressing that preventive measures, as outlined in chapter II of the Convention, are one of the most effective means of countering corruption and avoiding its negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights, and underlining that prevention measures should be strengthened at all levels,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and forums to strengthen cooperation in combating corruption, which aim, inter alia, to ensure openness and transparency, combat domestic and foreign bribery, tackle corruption in high-risk sectors, strengthen international cooperation and promote public integrity and transparency in the fight against corruption, which fuels illicit trade and insecurity and is a tremendous barrier to economic growth and the safety of citizens,

Noting with appreciation also the efforts made by those States that have established national coordination mechanisms between, inter alia, the different levels of their Governments and other actors, such as civil society organizations, the private sector and academia, to prevent and combat corruption,

Noting with appreciation further the efforts of regional organizations and forums to combat corruption, including, inter alia, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Course of Action on Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency and the Santiago Commitment to Fight Corruption and Ensure Transparency, and the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Open Data Principles, the Saint Petersburg Development Strategy, the non-binding Guiding Principles on Enforcement of the Foreign Bribery Offence, the Guiding Principles to Combat Solicitation, the Asset Recovery Principles, the asset recovery country profiles and the Asset Recovery Guides,

Noting with appreciation the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcoming their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States,

Noting with appreciation also the Lausanne process initiative, and welcoming the fulfilment of the mandate contained in resolutions 5/3 of 29 November 2013,[10] 6/2 and 6/3 of 6 November 2015[9] and 7/1 of 10 November 2017[6] of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, to develop practical guidelines on and a step-by-step guide for the efficient recovery of stolen assets, in close cooperation with the International Centre for Asset Recovery of the Basel Institute on Governance and with the support of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, that provides effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery for practitioners from requesting and requested States,

Welcoming resolution 6/2 on facilitating international cooperation in asset recovery and the return of proceeds of crime, resolution 6/3 on fostering effective asset recovery and resolution 6/4 of 6 November 2015 on enhancing the use of civil and administrative proceedings against corruption, including through international cooperation, in the framework of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[9] adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its sixth session, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, and resolution 7/1 on strengthening mutual legal assistance for international cooperation and asset recovery,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the seventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Vienna from 6 to 10 November 2017, and also welcomes its report,[11] which reflects the outcomes and contributions of the Conference of the States Parties to promoting the implementation of the Convention;

2. *Condemns* corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[3]

4. *Welcomes* the fact that 186 States parties have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, thus making it an instrument enjoying a status very close to universal adherence, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and urges all States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

5. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to review its implementation and commit to making it an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and encourage

[10] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A.
[11] CAC/COSP/2017/14.

the international community to develop good practices on asset return, and, furthermore, to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the high-level debate of the General Assembly marking the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in New York on 23 May 2018;

7. *Also notes with appreciation* the work carried out under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and by the Implementation Review Group, and urges Member States to continue to support this work and make every possible effort to provide comprehensive information and adhere to the timelines for review as contained in the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews;[12]

8. *Welcomes* the progress made in the first review cycle of the Mechanism and the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of the Mechanism, and encourages the use of the lessons learned during the first review cycle in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mechanism, as well as the implementation of the Convention;

9. *Strongly encourages* States parties to the Convention to continue to actively engage in the second review cycle of the Mechanism on chapter II, Preventive measures, and chapter V, Asset recovery, of the Convention, and invites them to provide appropriate extrabudgetary resources to contribute to the financing of the second review cycle;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery, on the Prevention of Corruption and on Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and encourages States parties to the Convention to support the work of all of these subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

11. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to continue and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

12. *Also calls upon* States parties to the Convention to fulfil their commitments, in accordance with its terms, to criminalize the bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organizations and to strengthen their efforts to effectively enforce these laws;

13. *Encourages* all States parties to the Convention to strengthen their commitment to effective national action and international cooperation to give full effect to chapter V of the Convention and to contribute effectively to the recovery of the proceeds of corruption;

14. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the acquisition, transfer

[12] CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7, annex I.

and laundering of proceeds of corruption and to work for the prompt recovery of such assets in accordance with the principles of the Convention, including chapter V;

15. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to make available online, including by considering the use of open data formats, as much government information as feasible, subject to relevant limitations in domestic law, in relation to the implementation of the Convention, in order to enable greater transparency, accountability and efficiency;

16. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to call upon States parties to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of international mutual legal assistance requests that need urgent action, and to ensure that the competent authorities of requested States have adequate resources to execute requests, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of these assets for sustainable development and stability;[15]

17. *Urges* States parties that have yet to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention to do so, and to appoint focal points for the purposes of international cooperation and mutual legal assistance in asset recovery, and, where appropriate, encourages States parties to make full use of the network of focal points of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery to facilitate cooperation and the implementation of the Convention, as well as the Global Focal Point Network on Asset Recovery, supported by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

18. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to use and promote informal channels of communication and the possibility of spontaneous exchange of information, as permitted by domestic law, in particular prior to making formal requests for mutual legal assistance, by, inter alia, designating officials or institutions, as appropriate, with technical expertise in international cooperation in asset recovery to assist their counterparts in effectively meeting requirements for mutual legal assistance;

19. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to remove barriers to asset recovery, including by simplifying their legal procedures and preventing abuse of those procedures, and also encourages States parties to limit, where appropriate, domestic legal immunities, in accordance with their legal systems and constitutional principles;

20. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions, including those on asset recovery, of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

21. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the identification and recovery of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption and to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention, and to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the extradition of individuals accused of the predicate offences, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including article 44;

22. *Also urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that procedures for international cooperation allow for the seizure and/or restraint of assets for a time period sufficient to preserve those assets in full, pending confiscation proceedings in

[15] CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A, resolution 5/3, para. 6.

another State, to ensure that there are adequate mechanisms in place to manage and preserve the value and condition of assets pending the conclusion of confiscation proceedings in another State, and to allow or expand cooperation in the enforcement of foreign seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, including through measures to permit recognition of non-conviction-based seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, where possible;

23. *Further urges* States parties to the Convention to take a proactive approach to international cooperation in asset recovery by making full use of the mechanisms provided for in chapter V of the Convention, including initiating requests for assistance, making spontaneous and prompt disclosures of information on proceeds of offences to other States parties and considering making requests for notifications, in accordance with article 52, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention, and, where appropriate, implementing measures to permit the recognition of non-conviction-based forfeiture judgments;

24. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that reliable, accurate and updated beneficial ownership information on companies is accessible to law enforcement agencies and other relevant authorities, including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units and tax administrations, thus facilitating the investigation process and the execution of requests, and encourages States parties to the Convention to cooperate in order to implement the measures necessary to enable them to obtain reliable information on beneficial ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, including trusts and holdings, used to commit crimes of corruption or to hide and transfer proceeds;

25. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their national legal systems, to provide each other with the widest possible assistance in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption offences, committed by natural or legal persons, including, if appropriate, through mutual legal assistance, for the detection of corruption offences, the identification, freezing and confiscation of assets, and the other purposes established in article 46, paragraph 3, of the Convention;

26. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures, in accordance with their domestic law, to permit another Member State to initiate civil action in their courts to establish title to or ownership of property acquired through the commission of corruption offences by natural or legal persons, as well as to permit their courts to recognize a civil claim of another Member State for payment of compensation or damages caused by corruption offences and for ownership of confiscated property acquired through the commission of such offences;

27. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to prevent, investigate and prosecute corruption offences established in accordance with the Convention, including, among others, when they involve vast quantities of assets, to freeze, seize, confiscate and return proceeds of offences, in accordance with the Convention, and to consider measures criminalizing attempts to commit such offences, including when organized criminal groups are involved;

28. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure that legal and natural persons are held accountable for corruption offences in accordance with its terms, including, among others, when they involve vast quantities of assets, and encourages States parties to the Convention to consider the legal aspects of asset

recovery and to strengthen cooperation in criminal matters, in accordance with chapter IV of the Convention;

29. *Encourages* Member States to prevent and combat all forms of corruption by increasing transparency, integrity, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors, and recognizes in this regard the need to prevent impunity by prosecuting corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to cooperate in their extradition, in accordance with the obligations under the Convention;

30. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracking of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, in accordance with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

31. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to give timely consideration to mutual legal assistance requests relating to the identification, freezing, tracing and or recovery of proceeds of corruption and to respond effectively to requests for exchange of information related to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instruments referred to in article 31 of the Convention situated in the territory of the requested State party, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including article 40;

32. *Urges* States, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems, to develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability, and in this respect encourages legal professionals and non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to assist businesses, in particular small and medium-sized businesses, to develop codes of conduct and compliance programmes for preventing bribery and corruption and promoting integrity;

33. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to recognize the importance of the involvement of young people and children as key actors in strengthening ethical behaviour, beginning with the identification and adoption of values, principles and actions that make it possible to build a fair and corruption-free society, in accordance with the Convention;

34. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to effectively implement all resolutions and decisions of the Conference of the States Parties, including resolution 7/8 on corruption in sport, inter alia, through taking robust legislative and law enforcement measures, supporting technical assistance and promoting capacity-building initiatives, as appropriate, and promoting cooperation between law enforcement agencies and relevant sport-related organizations and stakeholders, as well as resolution 7/5 on promoting preventive measures against corruption;

35. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level, in accordance with the Convention;

36. *Notes* the establishment by States of financial intelligence units, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider establishing such units in accordance with article 58 of the Convention;

37. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and countries of destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, in accordance with the Convention;

38. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to work with all stakeholders in international and domestic financial markets to deny safe haven to assets acquired illicitly by individuals engaged in corruption, to deny entry and safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to enhance international collaboration in the investigation and prosecution of corruption offences, as well as in the recovery of proceeds of corruption;

39. *Urges* all Member States to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption, in accordance with the Convention;

40. *Invites* Member States to make every effort to prevent and counter corruption and to implement measures aimed at enhancing transparency in public administration and promoting the integrity and accountability of their criminal justice systems, in accordance with the Convention;

41. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close and enhanced coordination, cooperation and synergies between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

42. *Also calls for* closer and active collaboration among interested States parties to the Convention, regional organizations and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, in identifying commendable practices in effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery consistent with chapter V of the Convention;

43. *Stresses* the need for further cooperation and coordination among the different international, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives mandated to prevent and combat corruption;

44. *Urges* Member States to take appropriate measures, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their national law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, the private sector and academia, in the prevention of and fight against corruption and to raise public awareness, through, inter alia, media campaigns, regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption;

45. *Recalls* article 63, paragraph 4 (c), of the Convention, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention shall agree upon activities, procedures and methods of work to achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph 1 of that article, including by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations, and in this regard invites the Conference of the States Parties to give due consideration to the implementation of the above-mentioned provision;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixth session;[7]

47. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the United Nations Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/6 on the private sector[18] and the adoption on 6 November 2015 of resolution 6/5, the Saint Petersburg statement on promoting public-private partnership in the prevention of and fight against corruption,[7] by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

48. *Recognizes* the important role of business and public-private partnerships in promoting measures to fight corruption, especially measures that support the promotion of ethical business practices in interactions between government, business and other stakeholders;

49. *Encourages* Member States to implement and raise awareness regarding effective anti-corruption education programmes;

50. *Urges* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery and the return and disposal of such proceeds in accordance with the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting anti-corruption efforts, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

51. *Urges* States parties and signatories to the Convention to strengthen the capacity of legislators, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors to combat corruption and to deal with matters relating to asset recovery, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance, confiscation, criminal confiscation and, where appropriate, non-conviction-based forfeiture, in accordance with national law and the Convention, and civil and administrative proceedings, and to give the highest consideration to providing technical assistance in those fields, upon request;

52. *Encourages* Member States to exchange and share with each other, including through regional and international organizations, as appropriate, information on lessons learned and good practices, as well as information related to technical assistance activities and initiatives in order to strengthen international efforts to prevent and combat corruption;

53. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to provide regular updates and to expand, where appropriate, the information contained in the relevant databases

[18] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A.

of knowledge on asset recovery, such as Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge and Asset Recovery Watch, taking into consideration constraints on information-sharing based on confidentiality requirements;

54. *Encourages* the collection and systematization of good practices and tools in the cooperation for asset recovery, including the use and expansion of secure information-sharing tools, with a view to enhancing early and spontaneous information exchange insofar as possible and in accordance with the Convention;

55. *Also encourages* the collection of substantial information duly researched and regularly published by recognized organizations and representatives of civil society;

56. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to make widely available information on their legal frameworks and procedures with regard to asset recovery under chapter V of the Convention, in practical asset recovery, mutual legal assistance and beneficial ownership guides or other formats designed to facilitate use by other States, and to consider, where advisable, the publication of that information in other languages;

57. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to share approaches and practical experience for the return of assets, consistent with article 57 of the Convention, for further dissemination through the Secretariat;

58. *Encourages* requesting States to ensure that adequate national investigative procedures have been initiated and substantiated for the purpose of presenting mutual legal assistance requests, and in this context encourages requested States to provide, when appropriate, information on legal frameworks and procedures to the requesting State;

59. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to compile and provide information in accordance with article 52 of the Convention and to take other actions that help to establish the linkage between assets and offences under the Convention;

60. *Notes with appreciation* the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank and its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery and INTERPOL, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

61. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in collaboration with the World Bank through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, upon request, technical assistance for the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, including by providing direct expertise on policy or capacity-building through the Office's thematic programme on action against corruption, economic fraud and identity-related crime and, where appropriate, regional programmes, using its range of technical assistance tools;

62. *Encourages* Member States to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States to assist in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and

render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge built through the implementation of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank;

63. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to consider, where appropriate, making use of the non-binding Lausanne Guidelines for the Efficient Recovery of Stolen Assets and the supporting step-by-step guide, available online, in their practice and to continue to exchange practical experiences, with a view to keeping the step-by-step guide up to date, as well as enhancing effective approaches to asset recovery based on lessons learned from past cases, being mindful that the Lausanne process can provide an important platform in this regard;

64. *Notes with appreciation* the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, and welcomes their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States;

65. *Welcomes* the work of the International Anti-Corruption Academy, a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research in the anti-corruption field, including in the area of asset recovery, and looks forward to its continued efforts in this regard to promote the goals and implementation of the Convention;

66. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, takes note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the communiqué of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hamburg, Germany, on 7 and 8 July 2017, and urges the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system;

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice an analytical section entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on its eighth session.

Draft resolution IX
Special session of the General Assembly against corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009, 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 67/189 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012, 68/195 of 18 December 2013, 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and 71/208 of 19 December 2016, and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolutions 23/9 of 13 June 2013,[1] 29/11 of 2 July 2015[2] and 35/25 of 23 June 2017,[3]

Recalling also the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[4] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its effective implementation, and acknowledging all relevant regional political declarations of Member States against corruption,

Stressing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[5] addresses the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and concerned about the seriousness of the problems and threats to the stability and security of societies posed by corruption, which undermine the institutions and values of democracy, ethics and justice, and jeopardize sustainable development and the rule of law,

1. *Decides* to convene in the first half of 2021 a special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation;

2. *Also decides* that at that special session the General Assembly shall adopt a concise and action-oriented political declaration, agreed upon in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations under the auspices of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

3. *Invites* the Conference of the States Parties to lead the preparatory process for the special session by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide substantive expertise and technical support;

5. *Decides* to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing resources.

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[5] Resolution 70/1.

46. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice

The General Assembly decides to take note of the following documents submitted under the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice":

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on technical assistance in implementing the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism;[2]

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on its seventh session.[3]

[1] A/73/134.
[2] A/73/136.
[3] A/73/117.